

**COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
6 JANUARY 2026**

MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2026/27 – 2029/30

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for 2026/27 to 2029/30.

Summary

2. Attached at **Appendix 1** is the MTFP report which has been approved by Cabinet as a basis for consultation at their meeting on 2 December 2025.
3. Members received a briefing on the MTFP by the Assistant Director Resources, on 15 December 2025.

Recommendations

4. It is recommended that:
 - (a) Members are requested to consider the MTFP 2026/27 to 2029/30 and forward any views and comments, in particular those in relation to the services and finances within the remit of this Scrutiny Committee, to a Special meeting of the Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee.
 - (b) That the Chair, in consultation with the Lead Scrutiny Officers supporting this Scrutiny Committee, be given authority to agree the Minutes of this Scrutiny Committee, to enable the Minutes to be considered at a Special Meeting of the Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee scheduled to be held on 20 January 2026.

**Brett Nielsen
Assistant Director Resources**

Background Papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Brett Nielsen: Extension 5403

Council Plan	The Council's MTFP contributes to all priorities in the Council Plan. Consultation with Members in the MTFP contributes to the delivery of the Plan.
Addressing Inequalities	The report does not contain any proposals that impact on equality issues.
Tackling Climate Change	There are no specific climate change impact issues in this report.
Efficiency & Resources	This report contains updated information regarding efficiency savings and use of resources contained in the MTFP.
Health and Wellbeing	There are no specific issues relating to health and wellbeing in this report.
S17 Crime and Disorder	This report has no implications for crime and disorder.
Wards Affected	This report has no specific impact on individual wards.
Groups Affected	This report has no specific impact on individual groups.
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	This report does not require a key decision.
Urgent Decision	This report does not require an urgent decision.
Impact of Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

5. Cabinet at its meeting held on 2 December 2025, approved the attached Medium Term Financial Plan as a basis for consultation.
6. As part of consultation process, the MTFP will be presented to each of the Council's Scrutiny Committees to discuss and consider the overall contents of the MTFP, particularly those contents in relation to the services and finances falling within the remit of that Scrutiny Committee.
7. Members are asked to forward any views and comments from this Committee to a Special Meeting of the Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee for consideration.
8. Once all the Scrutiny Committees have met, a Special Meeting of the Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee will be held on 20 January 2026, to agree a formal response to Cabinet on behalf of all the Scrutiny Committees as part of the consultation process. The Chairs of the Scrutiny Committees will be invited to attend this meeting to present their findings and answer any questions.

9. In view of the timescales involved in responding to the consultation, it is not possible for the individual Scrutiny Committees to formally approve their Minutes prior to the Special Meeting of the Economy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 20 January 2026, and it is therefore being suggested that authority be given to the Chairs, in consultation with the Lead Scrutiny Officers, to agree the Minutes in advance of the next Ordinary Meetings. The Minutes will still be an item on the agenda of the next meeting for formal approval as usual.